



Application No. : 09/945,176  
Applicant : Donald S. Merrill  
Filed : September 04, 2001

Director USPTO  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA.

Sir:

In response to Office action of 11/30/2004, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to Claims:** This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

**Listing of Claims:**

**Claims 1. (retained and appended) *Virtual Space formed by construction of an electronic enclosure produces utility as a natural product, resulting in an Electronic Facilitation Venue.***

- The above terms require definitions. The term facilitation is used to indicate an activity, process, or venue that lowers the 'threshold' required for a process to take place. For purposes of this claim we shall use the term Venue as a place or location, either physical or virtual, where a process can take place. Time, space, and dimensions limit physical locations. These limitations often create the need for extensive physical facilitation. Since Information Technology tends to eliminate these factors, virtual facilitation enhances cost effectiveness.
- The Electronic Facilitation Venue proposed here is a 'Generic Venue' that does not require immediate, specific hardware or software definition. It is first and foremost an intellectual construct requiring application of highly sophisticated information technology to bring it to reality. Care must be taken determining IT type and nature of its processes because these will determine the final configuration of the Facilitation Venue.